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REMARKS

By way of this amendment, claims 1, 3, 10, 12, 16 and 17 have been amended, and claim 11 has been canceled. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

In the present Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6-10, 14-16 and 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Esakoff et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,092,194).

Additionally, the Examiner indicated that claims 3-5, 11-13 and 17-19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 10 and 16 to substantially include select features previously presented in claims indicated as containing allowable subject matter, so as to place the claims in condition for allowance in order to expedite allowance of the present application. In particular, Applicant has amended claim 1 and 16 to further recite the adjusting mechanism comprises a rotatable member and first and second male members that travel within first and second female receptacles so that when the rotatable member is rotated the first and second magnifier lenses move axially relative to each other. The claim language added to claims 1 and 16 was generally present in claims 3 and 17, absent the recitation of the cylindrical barrel and absent recitation of the first and second sleeve members. Applicant has essentially added subject matter from the objected to claims that the Examiner has acknowledged as containing allowable subject matter, and respectfully requests that the rejection of the claims be withdrawn.

Applicant would like to point out that the Esakoff et al. patent discloses a lighting fixture having a pair of lenses 24 having lens holders 58 and 60 and a front rack 62 and rear rack 64 attached to the lens holders. In effect, the position mechanism 24 of Esakoff et al. is a rack and pinion arrangement in which an actuator 26 rotated about a spur gear causes a rack and pinion system to pull the lenses toward each other or away from each other.

In contrast, the claims of the present application, as amended, provide an adjusting mechanism having a rotatable member and first and second male members that travel within first and second female receptacles so that when the rotatable member is rotated the first and second

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magnifier lenses move axially relative to each other. Esakoff et al. does not teach the claimed adjusting mechanism.

Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 16, as amended, are not anticipated by Esakoff et al. patent, and the rejections to claims 1 and 10, and the claims dependent thereon, should therefore be withdrawn, which action is respectfully solicited.

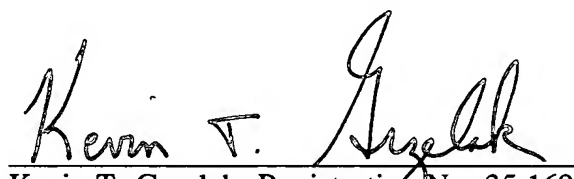
Additionally, Applicant has amended claim 10 to include the limitations previously found in claim 11, and amended claim 12 to include the limitation previously presented in claim 10 which the Examiner acknowledged as containing allowable subject matter. Accordingly, independent claims 10 and 12, and the claims dependent thereon are also in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-10 and 12-22, as amended, are not anticipated by the Esakoff et al. patent, and the claims, as amended, should be allowable, which action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the patentability of any of the claims, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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